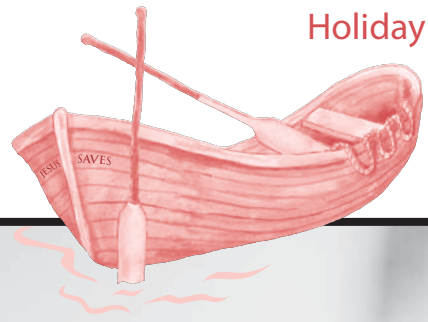


The **LIFELINE**



Gifts of Grace and Second Chances

Your gifts bring joy to hurting people like David at Christmas and all year round.

On Page 3: Read how your partnership and prayers gave a desperate man a second chance.

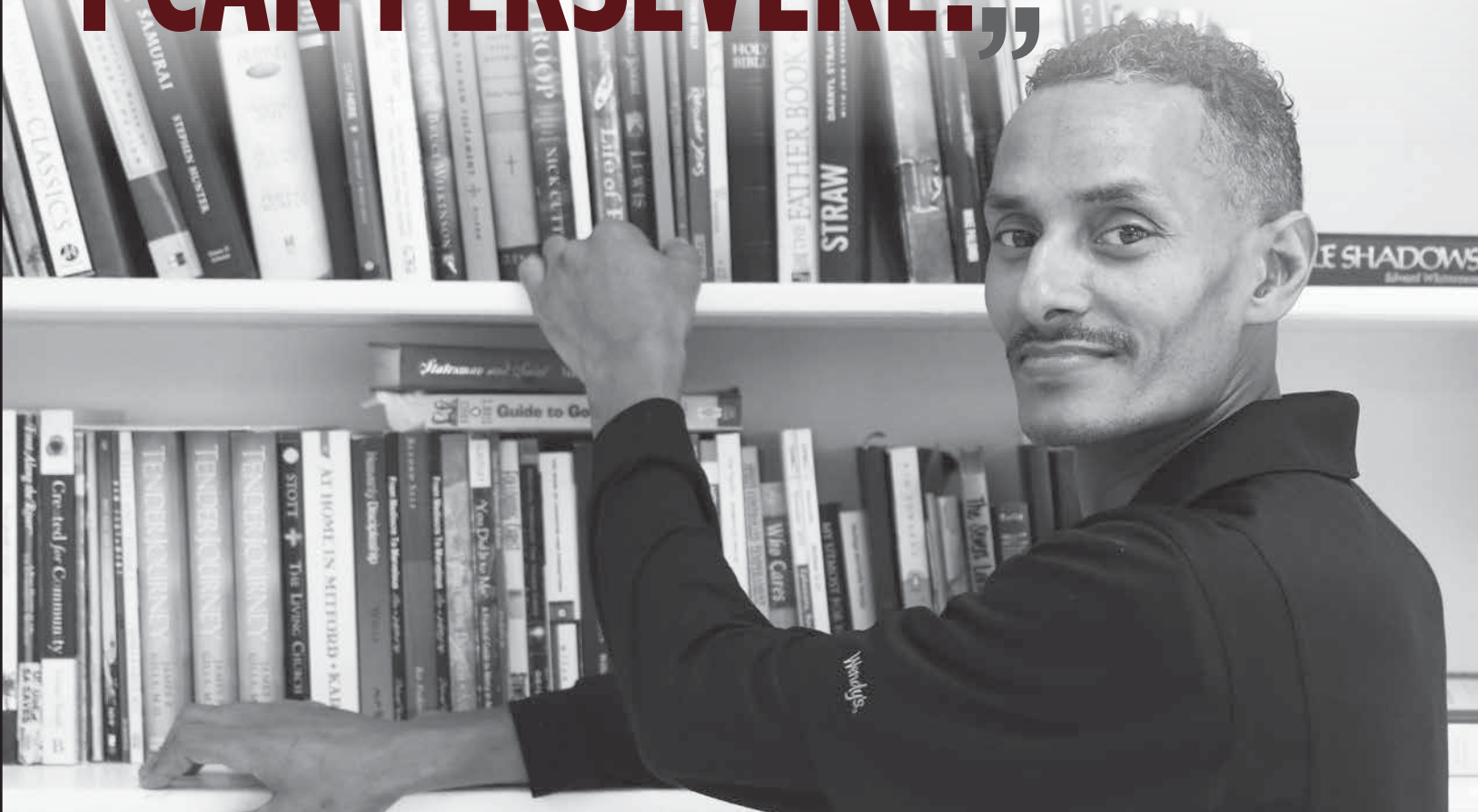
Don't miss...

2 How Your Gifts
Bring Joy

3 "Today I have
hope."

4 Thank You for
Sharing the Warmth

“Today I have hope and strength, knowing
I CAN PERSEVERE.”



Addiction can hit at any time, and often it throws the first punch. David had faith in God, a great job and two beloved children. “I never did drugs, not even alcohol,” David says. But at age 34, David had a heart attack. “The hospital pumped me with morphine, then sent me home with 60 Percocets.”

What began as a prescription for pain relief spiraled into an addiction that consumed six years of his life. **“Drugs were like a demon,”** David confesses.

**“I isolated. I didn’t spend time with my kids.
I even turned my back on the Lord.”**

Determined to get help, David put himself into detox and then came to the Mission. Through our program, David didn’t merely get sober. **“The Mission rekindled my fire for the Lord,”** he says.

Though David graduated and found a job, he

sometimes found sobriety challenging, and unfortunately fell prey to his addiction again. Before long, he was living in a tent.

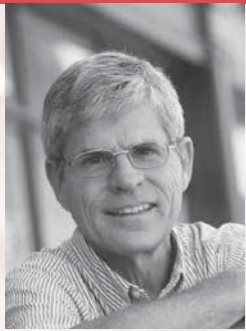
“One night I was thinking about how much I’d messed up my life. Right then, a friend I graduated the program with texted me and asked how I was doing,” David remembers.

When he told his friend the truth, David opened the door to grace and a second chance to get help. With that same grace, the Mission welcomed David back into the program.

David isn’t wasting his second chance. He’s working with his sponsor, active in his local church and serving at the Mission by helping newcomers. “I want to show them that if I can do it, so can they.”

This time around, even David’s kids see a difference. **“They tell me, ‘keep going, Daddy. You can do it!’”**

As Christmas approaches, David is grateful for the gifts he’s received, thanks to the work of the Mission and its generous donors. **“Today I have hope and strength, knowing I can persevere through any circumstance.”**



Your gifts
bring *joy*
to
hurting people.

Your generous contributions are not only blessings in themselves, but they're multiplied exponentially by the countless gifts they allow the Mission to share with those who are hungry, hurting and homeless.

The food, shelter and clothing we provide are gifts that fulfill the most basic human needs. Guidance, education and job training are gifts too – and when accepted with commitment and dedication, they can lead to lives filled with promise and purpose.

Yet the greatest gift we offer inside our doors is the message of God's love and grace, which can transform lives for eternity.

This issue of *The Lifeline* is all about sharing gifts – a subject that's especially appropriate during the holiday season as we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth. Yet God's work, the Mission's outreach and our partnership with friends like you is focused on giving all year long.

Of course, none of our ministries would be possible without the gifts you first give to us. And I'm so very grateful for your selfless giving, which brings joy to our hurting guests like David (*whose story you won't want to miss on page 3*) – at Christmas and every day of the year. God bless you this holiday season and always.


G. David Scott
Executive Director

P.S. Once again we'll be holding our annual Christmas Toy Shop to collect gifts for children in need, and we need volunteers and donations of toys. If you can help, please contact us at **(732) 988-0242**.

end**HUNGER...** offer**H****PE**

1,750 MEALS BY
CHRISTMAS

A single nutritious meal is often the first step toward a new beginning for those who are hungry, homeless and struggling with life's challenges. Most importantly, *it's an opportunity to share God's love – the greatest gift you can give.*

It costs only \$2.82 to provide one meal for a hungry person, at the holidays and all year round.

✉ GIVE NOW using the enclosed reply card and envelope.

📧 GIVE ONLINE anytime at **JerseyShoreRescueMission.org**.

Gift Cards are Great!



Gift cards to stores listed below are great for buying holiday foods, gifts and year-round necessities for our guests, facilities and programs. Simply drop them by or send them to the Mission at **701 Memorial Drive, Asbury Park, NJ 07712**.

**Walmart • Target • Office Depot •
Lowe's • Costco**

Discover
what's happening
at the
holidays!

JerseyShoreRescueMission.org





Thank you...
**FOR SHARING
THE WARMTH!**

It was a day filled with gratitude as those in need in Asbury Park received the gift of warmth at our **Annual Coat Giveaway** on November 17.

Our deepest thanks to the 92 volunteers who distributed more than 2,500 coats, hats, scarves and gloves, and to all who donated the winter wear and finances to help make this event a great success.

We couldn't have done it without you!



Select the perfect gift with
#GIVINGTUESDAY™

Make your **#GivingTuesday** gift now by shopping our Christmas Gift Catalog. It's full of ways to bring the joy of help and hope to people like David (See Page 3).



\$25
provides
nourishing
meals




\$50
provides
safe shelter



\$100
provides
education
and training

 Shop online at **JerseyShoreRescueMission.org/
GiftCatalog.**

 Or, add your special holiday gift to the enclosed reply card.

These Christmas gifts are representative of the needs of those we serve. Donations may be used to support the area of our ministry with the greatest need.